

Health News Release

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State revokes, suspends licenses, certifications, registrations of health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has revoked or suspended the licenses, certifications, or registrations of health care providers in our state. The department has also immediately suspended the credentials of people who have been prohibited from practicing in other states.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency's website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the <u>Department of Health home page</u> (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Clallam County

In May of 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission suspended for at least two years the credentials of registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **Rose M. Vasquez** (RN00119984, AP30003672), who failed to comply with terms of an earlier stipulation.

Clark County

In May of 2011 the Department of Health indefinitely suspended the credential of certified nursing assistant **Shalonda D. Hart** (NC10088331), who failed to respond to an inquiry about a complaint.

In June of 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program and the Board of Pharmacy immediately suspended the registered nursing assistant, pharmacy assistant and pharmacy technician credentials of **Larissa M. Michaelis** (NA60014957, VB60046420, VT60071046). The Oregon State Board of Pharmacy revoked her credential to practice as a licensed technician in that state.

Grays Harbor County

In May of 2011 the Dental Quality Assurance Commission ordered dentist **Jon E. Pitts** (DE00003847) to surrender his credential. Pitts provided substandard care to a patient. When the patient attempted to schedule a follow-up visit, she learned Pitts had retired without notifying her. Pitts also failed to record and maintain an adequate treatment chart for the patient.

King County

In May of 2011 the Department of Health indefinitely suspended the credential of massage practitioner **Jeannette Asher** (MA00023392). Asher was convicted in Pierce County Superior Court of second-degree identity theft, a class C felony.

In May of 2011 the Counselor Program suspended the credential of chemical dependency professional trainee **Katherine Ann Carter** (CO60195249), who failed to comply with a previous agreement.

In June of 2011 the Department of Health revoked the massage practitioner license of **Qi Peng Birdsall** (MA00021642), who was convicted of second-degree promotion of prostitution.

In May of 2011 the Department of Health suspended for at least three years the certified nursing assistant credential of **Kellie Smith** (NC10091259). While working at a skilled nursing facility, Smith took a resident's wallet, which contained \$20 and bank information, and withdrew about \$175 from the resident's bank account.

In June of 2011 the Medical Care Quality Assurance Commission withdrew a statement of charges against physician **Kenneth J. Jaramillo** (MD00032798).

In June of 2011 the Department of Health suspended for at least two years the registered nursing assistant credential of **Youssef L. Youssef** (60060543), who left an Alzheimer's disease patient unattended for at least 15 minutes despite a directive not to do so.

Pierce County

In June of 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission indefinitely suspended the credential of licensed practical nurse **Michele Carroll** (LP00031777). Carroll failed to respond to inquiries about positive drug screenings and admitting she had used a friend's Vicodin.

In May of 2011 the Board of Hearing and Speech suspended the hearing instrument fitter/dispenser credential of **Charles Ray Centers** (HA60125732), who failed to comply with a previous agreement.

In June of 2011 the Department of Health suspended for at least five years the registered nursing assistant credential of **Irene B. Kauble-Carlson** (NA00133834). She was convicted in Pierce

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County Superior Court of two counts of second-degree theft and one count of third-degree assault, all class C felonies; and was convicted in Tacoma Municipal Court of one count each of petty theft, shoplifting and criminal assault, all gross misdemeanors.

Skamania County

In May of 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission suspended for at least two years the registered nursing credential of **Susanna T. Palmer** (RN00167820). While on duty at a hospital, Palmer diverted a controlled substance for her personal, non-therapeutic use.

Spokane County

In May of 2011 the Department of Health suspended for at least a year the certified nursing assistant credential of **Heather L Cox** (NC10082952), who failed to administer medications that had been ordered for a patient.

In May of 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission indefinitely suspended the credential of registered nurse **Andrea M. Olsen** (RN00111310), who failed to respond to a request for information after a complaint was filed.

In May of 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission immediately suspended the credential of registered nurse **Andreas Fischer** (RN60093799) after the California State Board of Nursing accepted the surrender of Fischer's credentials to practice in that state.

Thurston County

In May of 2011 the Department of Health suspended for at least five years the registered nursing assistant credential of **Charlene A. Hawelu** (RN00084058). Hawelu left an elderly Alzheimer's disease patient alone in her car for 45 minutes to an hour while Hawelu was in a casino. The outdoor temperature at the time was about 32 degrees.

Whatcom County

In June of 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission indefinitely suspended the credential of licensed practical nurse **Monica Denice Blansett** (LP00044115), who failed to comply with a previous order.

Yakima County

In May of 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission entered into an agreed order with registered nurse **Michele M. Stokke** (RN00134288) under which her credential is suspended for at least two years. During a drug screening, Stokke tested positive for cocaine, an illegal drug, and for fentanyl, a controlled substance for which she had no prescription.

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Out of State

California: In May of 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission indefinitely suspended the credential of registered nurse **Sharon G. Anderson** (RN00129196). While working at a hospital in Washington, on seven occasions Anderson withdrew morphine for patients without sufficient orders or documentation.

Colorado: In June of 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission immediately suspended the credential of licensed practical nurse **Susan J. Daddio** (LP60123579) after the Florida Department of Health suspended her credential to practice in that state.

Florida: In June of 2011 the Department of Health denied the applications of **Vivian D. Bethea** (NA60072969, NC10046491) to reactivate her registered nursing assistant and certified nursing assistant credentials, with no right to reapply until her suspended licensed practical nurse credential is eligible for reinstatement.

Idaho: In May of 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission entered into an agreed order with registered nurse **Tracie L. Ryle** (RN00171777) under which her credential is suspended for at least three years. The Idaho State Board of Nursing revoked her credential to practice in that state. While working at a hospital in Washington, on seven occasions Ryle withdrew medication for patients without sufficient orders or documentation.

Michigan: In May of 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission entered into an agreed order with registered nurse **Jessica S. Jones** (RN00175222) under which her credential is indefinitely suspended. Jones failed to comply with a previous stipulation.

Virginia: In June of 2011 the Medical Care Quality Assurance Commission entered into an agreed order with physician **Daniel K. Lowe** (MD00042755) under which he surrendered his credential. A patient on whom Lowe performed surgery experienced complications and had to undergo further surgery to correct them.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, <u>find us on Facebook</u> and <u>follow us on Twitter</u>.

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